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Public testimony concerning bill 6519, An Act Concerning The Labeling Of Genetically Engineered Food.

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2013/TOB/H/2013HB-06519-R00-HB.htm>

I support bill 6519, An Act Concerning The Labeling Of Genetically Engineered Food. The genetically-modified-organisms labeling law should be passed in Connecticut.

As more and more genetically modified foods are fraudulently approved, the consumer is backed up into a corner. The only resort is to eat 100% organic foods, buy from a trusted farmer, or leave the United States. This problem was created by the biotechnology industry and should be fixed by the biotechnology industry by informing the public whether a food is genetically modified or not genetically modified. At least, they can put a sticker on the food, either saying contains genetically modified organisms or saying does not contain genetically modified organisms.

There is a revolving door in the federal government where the biotechnology people are in both industry positions and in federal government positions, a conflict of interest. Therefore, the states must act. This counters the argument that we need to wait for a federal country-wide law for uniformity across states. The states are acting because the federal government does not act. "The FDA has not reviewed its 1992 policy that deems GMO crops to be "substantially equivalent" to non-GMO crops, and thus needing no label or safety tests, since it was written. The policy was spearheaded by Michael Taylor, a former Monsanto lawyer, when he was in the role of deputy commissioner of policy. In 2010, Taylor was named deputy commissioner for foods at the FDA." -- <http://www.gmwatch.org/latest-listing/52-2013/14673-gmo-labeling-in-america>.

We have a right to know what is in our food. This needs no further explanation because it is self evident.

Whole foods are foods that are in their natural state, produced by natural means. Every wild species in the wild consumes whole foods. The human species is the only exception. Whole foods are the norm. All other foods are refined foods, including genetically modified foods (deranged genome produced by humans), cooked foods (deranged), dehydrated foods (water removed), juices (fiber removed), and foods with chemicals (polluted). Therefore genetically modified foods, which are refined foods, are not the same as whole foods and are substantially not equivalent, not equal.

Here are some examples of dangers already caused by genetically modified foods:

<http://www.responsibletechnology.org/doctors-warn>. Here is just one example. "The experience of actual GM-fed experimental animals is scary. When GM soy was fed to female rats, most of their babies died within three weeks—compared to a 10% death rate among the control group fed natural soy.[3] The GM-fed babies were also smaller, and later had problems getting pregnant."

Many other countries already label genetically modified organisms. Here is a list of countries:

<http://www.greenamerica.org/pubs/greenamerican/articles/AprilMay2012/Who-requires-GMO-labels.cfm>. European Union (1998); Japan, Australia, and New Zealand (2001); China, Saudi Arabia, and South Korea (2002); Thailand and Indonesia (2003); Brazil and Venezuela (2004); Taiwan (2005); Russia, India,

and Chile (2006); and South Africa (2011). Other countries have more freedom to know what is in their food than the United States, and therefore the United States is less free in this area, even less free than China, which is known to have human rights violations.

Permaculture is the alternative to using genetic modification and pesticides. Permaculture causes health by changing the environment rather than attacking the germ (disease). Antoine Béchamp, an opponent of Louis Pasteur's germ theory in the 1800s, said that the environment is everything and that the germ is nothing. Examples of changing the environment are biodiversity rather than a monoculture, water harvesting with level swales (ditches), and mulching by chopping the tops of nitrogen-fixing plants and laying them on the ground to rot into rich soil. Genetic modification and pesticides attacks the germ (disease), is causing damage to the environment, and is inferior to what nature does. Permaculture uses less input and gets more output. Permaculture is sustainable, which means that it will continue producing forever. Artificial industrial agriculture, such as genetic modification and pesticides, will fail. For example, genetically modified plants are designed to withstand pesticides. However, superweeds develop, which are resistant to pesticides. Therefore, more pesticides must be applied, making the environment more toxic than before. This is another reason to give people the right to choose, a choice between superior natural farming or inferior artificial industrial agriculture.

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